Committee are thereafter submitted for consideratin by Minister (Chemicals and Fertilizers) and after obtaining his approval the necessary Gazette notification is issued.

(e) Since such cases are far and few, no time frame has been stipulated, however, the Expert Committee meets as ofter as necessary.

Drip Irrigation Technology to Farmers of U.P.

1326. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the action taken so far by Government to privide drip irrigation technology to The farmers of drought prone areas of»U.P.;

(b) the financial assistance provided under the scheme in these areas during last three years; and

(c) the estimated number of farmers who availed of this facility during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Governmnet of India has taken following action to promote drip irrigation technology to the farmers of U.P., including the farmers of drought prone areas.

(i) Subsidy support to farmers upto a ceiling of 50% of cost of drip system limited to Rs. 15,000 per ha. for the total area he/she owns as per the State Land Ceiling Laws.

(ii) Demonstration of 1 ha. each at State farms with financial assistance of 75% of cost or Rs. 22,500 wichever is less.

(iii) Training of the field staff and farmers.

(iv) Support for applied research at Plasticulture Development Centre.

(b) Funds released to U.P. State during last three years under the scheme of Use of Plastics in Agriculture, in which drip irrigation is one of the major item is as under;

1992-93	—	Rs. 125 lakhs
1993-94	—	Rs. 93.19 lakhs
1994-95	—	Rs. 101.25 lakhs

(c) The estimated number of farmers who have availed the drip irrigation facility are approximately 335 farmers till date.

Proposals for Welfare of Terrorism Affected and Rural Women and Children

1327. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answar to Unstarred Qestion 4280 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th April, 1995 andstate:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for formulating more welfare schemes and programmes for rural and terrorism affected women/widows and children in the country, particularly in the State of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) Efforts were being made to evolve and extend benefits through various programmes for women and children such as Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA). Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD) Support to* Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) and Scheme of Short Stay Homes for women and children. These schemes are being implemented by the Deptt, of Women and Child Development. There is no scheme exclusively for terrorism affected women and children. However, Ministry of Home Affairs has several relief package for persons which includes widows and orphans adversely affected in terrorist violence in the State of Punjab.